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The Suffragist

OFFICIAL WEEKLY ORGAN OF
THE NATIONAL WOMAN'S PARTY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 17, 1918

Drawn for The Suffragist by Nina E. Allender

Democracy in the United States

National Woman's Party

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Notes of the Week

Senate Roused to Debate Suffrage Issue

ON Thursday, August 8, the "corporal's guard" now attending the sessions of the Senate, debated the federal suffrage amendment for two solid hours, praising the President for his support of suffrage, denouncing "suffragettes," considering the "sphere" of women, and declaring that all sections of the suffrage movement, militant and non-militant, worked together with a considerable degree of harmony.

Two points were not mentioned by any Senator —first, that the Democratic Party has for seven months obstructed the suffrage amendment in the Senate; second, that the President, as the leader of the Democratic Party, permitted the obstruction and is responsible for it.

So long as the President and the Senate continue to deny democracy to women, women will continue to protest publicly against this injustice.

Senator Sheppard on "Kaiserism" in Congress

SENATOR Sheppard, of Texas, delivered in the Senate on August 5 an address on the suffrage amendment, singular for the high character of its statesmanship, the historic grasp of its subject, and its masterly compression of thought. The present issue before the Senate, Senator Sheppard said, "is the same issue at the heart of the conflict that now divides the world. The basis of German imperialism lies in the fact that the German people may make no change in the German constitution unless the German Emperor agrees that it shall be made. . . . There are men in the United States Senate who say they will not permit the American people to consider a change in the American constitution. . . . unless these men first hold and believe that it should be made. Thus they hold in spirit and effect the same attitude toward the American people as that occupied by the German Kaiser under the German system toward the German constitution and the German people."

If the Senate refuses to allow the states to consider this enfranchising measure, "then let it be said, in sorrow and humiliation," concluded Senator Sheppard, "that in a land dedicated to democracy the American Senate has lifted, so far as this question is concerned, the black banner of a consummate despotism."

Duchess of Marlboro Candidate for London County Council

THE Duchess of Marlborough, formerly Consuelo Vanderbilt of New York, daughter of Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, has been accepted as the Progressive candidate for the North Southwark division of the London County Council.

It is, historically, a striking fact that two women, mother and daughter, have become political leaders in the two greatest Anglo-Saxon countries of the world.

Militant Englishwoman Now Head of Great British Industries

LADY Mackworth, daughter of Viscount Rhondda, and a militant "suffragette," is now acclaimed the "world's greatest business woman." At the present time she is the active manager of a concern employing upwards of 50,000 men, and a director in some thirty or more enterprises, both industrial and financial.

Lady Mackworth first came into prominence as a business woman during the early part of the war. At that time her father was sent to the United States and Canada to buy munitions of war for Great Britain, and she was called upon to take charge of his financial and industrial interests. She immediately took over her father's office in the Cambrian Coal Combine, which practically controls the whole Welsh coal field, and helped to make the momentous decisions in relation to the miners which at that time were seriously affecting Great Britain's war plans.

All of the demands of the striking Welsh miners came to Lady Mackworth for consideration, and Lloyd George, in attempting conciliation, could have accomplished little without her help.

In the course of a short time she found herself a director of many big corporations having to do with the mining, industrial, transportation and financial interests of the kingdom. The government recognized her administrative abilities by appointing her chief controller of women's recruiting at the National Service Ministry, the clearing house for women's activities.

Previous to the breaking out of the war in England Lady Mackworth took a very active part in the militant suffrage movement; she was arrested and sentenced to prison many times.

Since the death of her father, Viscount Rhondda, Lady Mackworth has claimed her rights as a peeress to sit in the House of Lords. It will be very interesting if the House of Lords opens its doors to admit women to its councils as equals, before the American Senate is willing to go so far as to submit to the states the question of women's right to vote.

Indian Women Demand Emancipation

AN earnest and touching plea for political freedom is being made today by the women of India.

The British Government declared in August, 1917, through Mr. Montagu, British Secretary of State for India, its policy of increasing the association of Indians in every branch of the administration and the gradual development of self-governing institutions with a view to the progressive realization of responsible government in India, as an integral part of the British Empire.

Mrs. Millicent Fawcett, president of the National Union of Woman Suffrage Societies, writes in a recent number of the *Common Cause,*

"Suffragists in this country will be asking themselves and each other, 'What does the Government propose to do about the representation of women in India?' Moreover, this question is also being asked by Indian women.

"During the last two months I have received letters from groups of Indian women on this matter. One is from the All Indian Women's Deputation to Lord Chelmsford and Mr. Montagu; another is from the secretary of the Women's Indian Association of Adyar, Madras. The first lays special stress on the need for education, but also emphasises the desire of the women of India to share in political responsibility. . . . The other puts a stronger emphasis on the need for political emancipation. It is so interesting that I transcribe its most important paragraph:

"'At present in many ways the position of women in this country is not satisfactory, even taking into consideration the difference between East and West. No wise person wishes to Europeanise Indian women, but for their welfare and development along the lines of Indian culture and education, it is necessary that their rights should be recognized by Indian men at the beginning of any new scheme. Indian women have already begun the big fight for education, marriage reform, etc.; and I can assure women in England that they are as capable, as intelligent, as keen to help and cooperate in any work for the welfare of humanity as any other women in the world, and, added to that, they have a spirit of self-sacrifice and devotion exceeding that of any other inhabitants of earth. I have considerable opportunity of knowing and understanding what the women in all parts of India are feeling and thinking, as I travel about with my husband, lecturing, and at every place we visit I hold women's meetings and get into touch with the women of the town or village. Also I am honorary organizing secretary of the above Association, which has branches all over India and a large membership; and there is everywhere a most strong desire for education, to be allowed to take their place in the life of the country—a knowledge that they, as women, could contribute to the welfare of the nation were they given the opportunity. I might mention that the men in this country have very little knowledge of what the women think or feel about things, as it is not the custom of the two sexes to talk to each other, and interchange of ideas, even between near relations, is rare.' . . .

"In the meantime, much encouragement will be felt in consequence of a powerful plea for the political emancipation of women which is embodied in a book called "India in Transition," by his Highness the Aga Khan, the head of the Ismaili Mahommedans, and an acknowledged leader in the Mahommedan world. . . . [His Highness] speaks of the grave evils of infant marriage in India and of the immense difficulty and labor involved on the part of the late Mr. Malabari in getting the age of consent raised from ten to twelve, and he adds, 'these and other social evils have so handicapped India that it is impossible to conceive of her taking a proper place in the midst of free nations unless the broad principle of equality between the sexes has been generally accepted by her people.'"

THE NATIONAL SUFFRAGE AMENDMENT

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States extending the right of suffrage to women.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article be proposed to the legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which when ratified by three-fourths of the said legislatures, shall be valid as part of said Constitution, namely:

"ARTICLE—SEC. 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

"SEC. 2. Congress shall have power, by appropriate legislation, to enforce the provisions of this article."

THE AMENDMENT IN THE SIXTY-FIFTH CONGRESS

Introduced

In the Senate, on April 4, 1917, by Senators Thompson, Owen, Jones and Shafroth.

In the House, on April 2, 1917, by Representatives Raker, Rankin, Mondell, Keating, Taylor and Hayden. Reintroduced in the House December 18, 1917, by Representatives Rankin, Raker, Hayden, Taylor, Keating and Mondell.

Referred

In the Senate, to the Committee on Woman Suffrage.

In the House, to the Judiciary Committee.

In the House all resolutions reintroduced on December 18 were referred to the Committee on Woman Suffrage.

Reported in the Senate

Favorably, September 15, 1917.

Reported in the House

By Judiciary Committee without recommendation December 15, 1917.

By Suffrage Committee with recommendation January 8, 1918.

Present Status

In the Senate

On the calendar awaiting a vote.

In the House

Passed January 10, 1918.

HISTORY OF THE AMENDMENT

Drafted

In its present form, by Susan B. Anthony in 1875.

First Introduced

January 10, 1878, by Hon. A. A. Sargent, in the Senate.

Reported from Committee

In the Senate

1878, Adverse majority.
1879, Favorable minority.
1882, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1884, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1886, Favorable majority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1892, Favorable majority, adverse minority.
1896, Adverse majority.
1913, Favorable majority.
1914, Favorable majority.
1917, Favorable majority.

In the House

1883, Favorable majority.
1884, Adverse majority, favorable minority.
1886, Favorable minority.
1890, Favorable majority.
1894, Adverse majority.
1914, Without recommendation.
1916, Without recommendation.
1917, Without recommendation.

Voted Upon

In the Senate

January 25, 1887. Yeas 16, nays 34. Absent 26 (of whom 4 were announced as for and 2 against).

March 19, 1914. Yeas 35, nays 34, failing by 11 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

In the House

January 12, 1915. Yeas 174, nays 204, failing by 78 of the necessary two-thirds vote.

January 10, 1918. Yeas 274, nays 136, passing by the necessary two-thirds vote.

The Suffragist

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The President's Responsibility

SOME men are frankly and ingenuously at a loss to know why women are protesting at all against the delay of suffrage in the Senate.

"Isn't the President for you?" they say. "Has he not written a note to two Senators?"

Women then explain, point by point, with their curious dry logic and trained patience, that they are not interested in Presidential literature; they want the suffrage amendment passed; that President Wilson can have it passed and has not done so; that on the contrary his own party and some of his faithfullest followers have obstructed the amendment in the Senate for seven months without a word of public rebuke from him; that the session is perilously close to an end, and that women must make a sharp protest to call the attention of the country to this dangerous situation;—or else sit with hands folded and watch the last one or two months of the session drift away, as seven months have already drifted away, carrying the precious hope of enfranchisement with them.

All this we urge, reasonably, thinking it strange that it is still necessary to remind men that we are disfranchised, and that nothing is more natural and right than to protest against disfranchisement. "With the possibility of failure before us, are we to be grateful for letters?" women say, hardly believing that men can still think, however palpably inadequate the President's help, that we ought to be humbly thankful to get it; and that above all things we ought not to ask for more help, or else we will certainly "displease" the President and get none at all.

But women have not studied in the hard school of politics for nothing. They know they are just as much disfranchised with too little of the President's help as with none of it.

When the President gives women a little help, he reaps a big advantage; we none. He is acclaimed, at the publication of one eloquent letter after the other—(to the Louisiana legislature, to allied women, to Senator Shields, whom he "hesitated to request" that the letter be published; to Senator Baird, a Republican not seeking re-election)—as the pure embodiment of Twentieth Century democracy;—while we are as voteless as we were before.

President Wilson's letters help him now, just as his solitary vote for suffrage in New Jersey helped him enormously in the 1916 campaign, though the women of New Jersey are disfranchised to this day. Moreover, everyone knows that the President would not publish these letters if they did not help him; and that he will do more if the country is made to understand that what he has already done is insufficient; whereas, if the country is allowed to believe that the President is the glorious apostle of liberty for women, obviously he will not need to do more for women.

What we really ought to say to men is, "If a measure essential to your interests were blocked for want of a few votes by Democrats in the Senate for seven months, and a Democratic President kept writing about it to Louisiana and so on, would *you* be satisfied?" We know they would not be. They would turn the thunders of their wholesome and admirable wrath on a note-writing policy, when action was needed. But where women's interests are concerned, men sincerely believe that we ought to be thankful for the notes.

Women, we believe, are more reasonable than men. They are thankful for the notes. They appreciate them just as much as the Louisiana legislature or Senator Baird appreciates them.

But they want freedom for American women. That freedom is now, of all times, within the President's gift. As long as the President withholds it, women will direct toward him a protest against the delay of justice which he continues to permit.

Women's Protest Against Disfranchisement Broken Up by Federal Police

By Order of President's Military Aide, 48 Women are Arrested at Protest Meeting in Lafayette Park

Released on Bail while Court Considers "With What Offense, if Any, They Should be Charged"

Hazel Hunkins
Who Led the Banner Line

FORTY-EIGHT women were arrested on August 6 in the shadow of the White House for demanding their immediate enfranchisement. The meeting was held to protest against the obstruction of the suffrage amendment in the Senate by the Democratic Party, and the failure of President Wilson to give the amendment effective help.

Mrs. Lawrence Lewis opened the meeting from the base of the statue of Lafayette. "We are here," she said, "because when our country is at war for liberty and democracy—"

With the word "democracy" still upon her lips, Mrs. Lewis was seized by the police and placed under arrest. Other women standing near Mrs. Lewis on the monument to the soldier of freedom, were immediately arrested, though they had not uttered a single word, and did not after the arrests were made.

There was a moment of appalled silence. Then one of the banner bearers, who had escorted the speakers to the Lafayette monument, and were standing grouped closely about it, leaped upon the base of the statue and spoke in Mrs. Lewis's place. It was Miss Hazel Hunkins, of Montana, who had carried the American flag at the head of the banner line. "Here, at the statue of Lafayette, who fought for the liberty of this country," she said, "and under the American flag, I am asking for the enfranchisement of American women." She was immediately arrested. But other women took her place, each one stepping forward as the speaker in front of her was removed by the police, till forty-eight women had been taken into custody.

A Connecticut woman, Mrs. George L. Koenig, of Hartford, was ordered by a policeman not to mount the step at the foot of the statue. When she persisted, he took her forearm in both hands and twisted it so violently that the arm was severely sprained.

Miss Alice Paul was arrested as she was standing perfectly still in the middle of the street; bystanders heard one policeman, pointing to her, say to another, "That's the leader; get her."

At the municipal building, bail was fixed for each woman; and charges were formally lodged against them. All the women were charged by the police, acting under the orders of Colonel Ridley, President Wilson's military aide, and assistant to the Chief Engineer attached to the War Department, with assembling in a public park without a permit; two of their number, Miss Clara Wold and Mrs. Blanche McPherson, with the additional charge of speaking in a public park without a permit. All were ordered to appear in court the following day.

But when they were assembled the next day in the federal police court, the United States district attorney informed Mr. Matthew O'Brien, counsel for the Woman's Party, that he would have to continue the cases till the following Tuesday, so that he might examine the witnesses and see "what offense, if any, the women would be charged with."

"I cannot go on with this case," said the district attorney, with incredible frankness. *"I have had no orders.* There are no precedents for cases like these. I can only find one case at all like it, and that is the case of Coxey's Army."

"As I remember that case," said a newspaper man, "they were arrested for walking on the grass."

"Yes," said the District Attorney, "it is not like this case, but it is the nearest I can find."

In spite of their protest at the delay of the Court in proceeding against them, and against the amazing injustice of their arrest and detention in Washington under a totally unspecified charge, the forty-eight cases were ordered sus-

Washington Police Officers About to Arrest Suffragists Attempting to Hold Protest Meeting at Lafayette Monument, Opposite the White House

pended by Federal Judge McMahon till the following Tuesday.

Senator Curtis, of Kansas, Republican leader in the Senate, declared that the arrests were an effort to silence the indignation of women at the opposition of the Democratic Party to their enfranchisement.

"The truth of this statement is made evident," said Senator Curtis, "by the admission of the court that the forty-eight suffragists are arrested upon absolutely no charges, and that these women, among them munition workers and Red Cross workers, are held in Washington until next Tuesday, under arrest, while the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia decides for what offense, 'if any,' they were arrested.

"The meeting was called to make a justified protest against the continued blocking of the suffrage amendment by the Democratic majority in the Senate. It is well known that three-fourths of the Republican membership in the Senate are ready to vote for the amendment, but under the control of the Democratic majority, the Senate has recessed for six weeks without making any provision for action on this important amendment.

"In justice to the women who have been working so hard for the amendment, it should be passed at the earliest possible date, and if action is not taken on it soon after the resumption of business in the Senate, there is every possibility that it will not be taken during this Congress, and the hard-won victory in the House of Representatives will have been won for nothing."

THE meeting, so violently broken up, assembled most beautifully.

Promptly at 4:30 on Tuesday afternoon, a long line of close upon a hundred women left the headquarters of the Woman's Party on Lafayette Square, crossed to the park side of the street and turned into and along Pennsylvania Avenue. It was an uplifting sight to see the long line of sail-like banners with their glorious colors of purple, white and gold, moving slowly under the trees, at the head the American flag floating.

The crowds in the park cheered and applauded in little outbursts, but for the most part looked on in silence; for there was a certain quiet solemnity in the slow-moving, lovely line of color. But the people looked on with very friendly eyes, the sailors on Pennsylvania Avenue gravely saluting the flag at the head of the line.

Arrived at the statue of Lafayette, just opposite the east gate of the White House, the line turned. Two lettered banners were carried to the platform at the base of the statue. The first was the Inez Milholland banner, inscribed with her words, "How long must women wait for liberty?" It was held by Mary Gertrude Fendall, of Baltimore. The second, held by Clara Wold, of Oregon, and Mrs. Blanche McPherson, of New York, carried the message of the meeting:

"We protest against the continued disfranchisement of American women, for which the President of the United States is responsible.

"We condemn the President and his party for allowing the obstruction of suffrage in the Senate.

"We deplore the weakness of President Wilson in permitting the Senate to line itself with the Prussian Reichstag by denying democracy to the people.

"We demand that the President and his party secure the passage of the suffrage amendment through the Senate in the present session."

The other banner bearers marched to the right and left of the statue till their flags were banked in a great mass of color on both sides of it. As they took their place, the police began to close in around them. When all were still, Mrs. Lewis stepped sweetly forward and opened the menaced meeting without a tremor in her voice.

Then followed a scene of extraordinary confusion. Women seemed to be arrested indiscriminately. Many women asked on what charge they were arrested. "Don't answer them. Don't tell them anything," said one policeman. Others gave elaborate charges, not substantiated later at police headquarters. Patrol wagon after patrol wagon went off with detachments of women, the purple, white and gold banners fluttering from the door. The heat was terrific; that and the unreasoning violence gave one a curious sickened feeling.

The women arrested, grouped by their states, were:

New York: Hazel Adams, Brooklyn; Eva E. Sturtevant, Pauline Clarke, Blanche A. McPherson, Katherine R. Fisher, Rose Lieberson, Alice Kimball and Matilda Terrace, of New York City; Lucy Burns, Brooklyn; Edith Ainge, Jamestown, and May Sullivan, Brooklyn;

Maryland: Mary Gertrude Fendall, Julia Emory, Anna Kuhn and Gladys Greiner, all of Baltimore;

Pennsylvania: Martha W. Moore, Cora Crawford, Dr. Sarah Hunt Lockrey, Dora Lewis, of Philadelphia; Elsie Winsor and Mary Winsor, Haverford; Mrs. Edmund Caldwalder Evans, Ardmore; Christine M. Doyle, Bryn Mawr; Kate Cleaver Heffelfinger, Shamokin; and Lavinia Dock, Fayetteville;

New Jersey: Harriet Keehn, Paterson; Alice Paul, Moorestown; and Mary E. Dubrow, Passaic;

Connecticut: Lillian M. Ascough, Edna M. Purtelle and Ruby E. Koenig, of Hartford; Elsie Hill, Helena Hill Weed and Eleanor Hill Weed, of Norwalk;

Virginia: Matilda H. Gardner, Mount Vernon; Sophie G. Meredith, Richmond; and Louise M. Black, Norfolk;

Washington, D. C.: Agnes Chase and Kate J. Boeckh;

Montana: Hazel Hunkins, Billings;

Oregon: Cora Wold and Clara P. Wold, Portland;

Illinois: Gertrude Lynde Crocker, Chicago;

Kansas: Effie Boutwell Maine;

Delaware: Annie Arneil, Wilmington;

Idaho: Margaret Oakes, Emmet;

Massachusetts: Nellie M. Gross, Boston.

JUDGE Ben Lindsey, just back from a six months' visit to Europe for the Committee on Public Information, stated that "the authorities responsible for the arrest of the women ought to be indicted for aiding German propaganda against our country."

He continued: "I have just returned from Europe where I have been with the army in Italy and France for the last few months—the army which is fighting for democracy.

"I know what the pro-German propagandists will do with this sort of thing; and the men responsible for it, whoever they are, seem to me to deserve the severest censure for their lack of discretion and judgment."

Did You Ever Climb a Statue?

By Clara Wold, Oregon

"ARRESTED for congregating in a park!" I sat up with as much of a jerk as is possible for one who has been waiting and wilting for the unaccustomed working of the court-police mind to make a cycle of thought. Nothing followed, save the droning of the police clerk as he called off the names of the prisoners, and the intermittent pleadings of a police lady, who begged us to "please keep quiet, dearie."

There was a mysterious charge for two of us. The clerk had said so and as he called my name, I meekly ventured, "What is the second charge?" I had never before been arrested, so I still clung to the idea that one is always arrested for some offense.

"For speaking in the park!" bellowed the clerk.

"But I didn't—"

"Well, for climbing the statue, then," he snarled. Really these women were most unreasonably feminine, demanding reasons for arrests; and he spent his final spleen with, "Pass on out into the hall." I passed.

A strange day it had been, I thought, as we marched back to headquarters. There was the morning, my first in the nation's capital. There had been no time to tour the city, but I had recognized the capitol building in the distance. I had almost bumped into the sacred precincts of the White House, and the Treasury Building had somehow followed me everywhere. I knew them all from the pictures of child days when they had told me thrilling stories of fights for freedom.

But I was not there to "reminisce," and I glanced at the handbills I was carrying—bills telling everyone to come to the White House in the afternoon to protest against the long delay in enfranchising women.

And in the afternoon we had started on our march to the Lafayette monument with banners

flying and were greeted by an applauding crowd. Evidently they, too, thought it time for the Senate to pass on the national suffrage amendment. As we swung into the park, a double row of policemen welcomed us, most of them smiling. On we walked to the monument, where one after another stepped up onto the ledge. Two policemen stood waiting and politely helped me up into the very arms of the strange lady who eternally offers the sword to Lafayette. Another policeman came running, greatly perturbed.

"You can't stand there, lady," he ventured. Apparently he was very uncertain, but just then the chief of the police called out, "What's the argument?" and all his men withdrew hurriedly. It had been a mistake, then.

Now someone was starting to speak about democracy, but the very mention of such a thing settled the minds of the police force and with one accord they stepped forward and began arresting us. Another woman rose to say that she too believed in democracy and free speech, but was dragged down at once. Over to the patrol wagon we were escorted, forty-eight of us, and slowly the wheels of justice began revolving.

And now we were marching back as seriously as we had started forth, still feeling that we must let the President and the Senate know that we, too, believe that the suffrage amendment should be disposed of once and for all. Army and navy men passed us and saluted the American flag which led our march. Civilians raised their hats in recognition.

We had come to tell what we wanted. There were those from the munitions factories; those who were working for the Red Cross; there were those who had sons fighting for democracy abroad, and yet we were not to plead for democracy at home. And for once a distinct sense of protest arose within me. I recalled that one woman had cried out as they arrested her that she had sons fighting in France, and that for this offense a policeman had commissioned a lady police to keep strict watch over her and "see that you write down what she says."

On the following morning we appeared in court at nine-thirty as ordered. By ten-thirty the United States Attorney arrived. Would we really be held for congregating in a park? No, that was an obsolete law. But for climbing on the statue? Well, that was another matter. Who could tell? The half hours dragged along, the sun drove along hotter and hotter. The bailiff roamed up and down trying vainly to keep the dignity of a crowded court-room. Inside the railing people wandered hither and yon in front of whirring fans. Only those out in the court-room remained quiet. If anyone dared to whisper, the bailiff sang forth a "silence!"

Two of us there were who were particularly marked. We had been charged with climbing a statue. Was it then so serious to climb statues? I tried to think whether or not I had ever indulged in that sport before, and whether they had ever told me not to when I was a child. I recalled all the statues I had ever seen. Never had I climbed any of them. But then I remembered the two policemen who had helped me up. No, it could not be serious after all, for the law itself had aided me; and I sat serenely waiting for the judge to dismiss us.

Into my serenity broke the words of the United States Attorney as he told us that the case was postponed for a week and that he would need that time to find a charge against us.

One week in which to find a charge for forty-eight arrests already made! It was too astonishing to believe. Dumbly I walked out of the room. I, who had asked that the same right to vote which I have should be a recognized right of all other women in this country, was under arrest for a week while the United States Attorney was hunting through the archives and the Senate chambers, perhaps, for a reason for that arrest.

I walked past the Lafayette monument. "Arrested for congregating in a park," I murmured; and added, "and for climbing a stat——" But there sat a colored man on the very same ledge—basket, bundles and papers strewn about him as he comfortably devoured a sandwich beneath the folds of the bronze lady's dropping veils. Over his head ran the words,

"To Lafayette and his Compatriots."

Free Speech Issue Up to President Wilson

By Matthew O'Brien, Counsel for the Woman's Party

I ADVISED the leaders of the Woman's Party that if they held a protest meeting in Lafayette Park, and the speakers did not engage in any treasonable statements, they would be within the law and would be guilty of no offense. I did this deliberately after having made an examination of all the laws in force in the District of Columbia with reference to the public parks of the District of Columbia.

An Act of Congress approved July 1, 1898, placed the park system of the District of Columbia under the exclusive jurisdiction of the chief engineer of the War Department of the United States and Section 2 of that Act specifically provides "That the park system of the District of Columbia is hereby placed under the exclusive charge and control of the Chief of Engineers of the United States Army, under such regulations as may be prescribed by the President of the United States, through the Secretary of War."

It is my opinion that until the President of the United States acts and makes some regulations governing the park system, that there are no regulations governing conduct in the parks in the District of Columbia. So far as I have been able to discover, the President of the United States has made no regulations for the government of the parks of the District of Columbia. It is true that the Chief of Engineers of the War Department has approved some regulations for conduct in the public parks of the District of Columbia, but the President of the United States not having authorized such regulations and not having prescribed such regulations through the Secretary of War, as provided in Section 2 of the Act of Congress above quoted, they are, in my opinion, as the Kaiser says, a "mere scrap of paper," and have no force and effect as law.

The arrests that were made last Tuesday were made by the park police who are under the direction of the Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds and the War Department, without authority of law; and after the arrests were made, the district attorney was at a loss to discover what to charge the persons arrested with, since even the regulations prescribed by the chief of engineers of the War Department, if they were authorized by law, have not been violated; and the district attorney was forced to go to the Peace and Order Act of the District of Columbia to find some section thereof which may have been violated by the persons arrested.

I have been informed by the District Attorney that he has concluded that the speakers violated a section of the Peace and Order Act of the District of Columbia by holding a public meeting in the park. The section applicable to holding public meetings in parks of the District of Columbia, on streets or public spaces of the District of Columbia, has not been violated in this case That section provides that loud and boisterous talking is prohibited, comments upon passers-by, and indecent and profane language; but does not prohibit the orderly speaking of persons engaged in propaganda work of any character; and there is no law which prohibits public speaking in the parks of the District of Columbia, although there is one which prohibits speaking without a permit in the streets and public spaces of the District of Columbia outside of the park system.

Certain others of the women arrested who did not speak are charged with "climbing upon the monument." An examination of the law in respect to this, as covered by the Peace and Order Act, prohibits the disfigurement of monuments or injury to the monuments, but does not prohibit the simple standing upon, or climbing upon a monument, unless injury is done to the statue; and this is made plain by the provision promulgated which provides for a penalty to equal the amount of injury done to the monument, plainly showing that there was no intention of making it an offense unless there was some injury done to the monument, or some disfigurement thereof. It cannot be that well-dressed, well-educated, well-conducted women could be regarded as disfigurement to a monument. I, therefore, unhesitatingly give it as my professional opinion that the women arrested Tuesday were arrested without any warrant of law whatever.

Comments of the Press

Not Singular!

THE chairman of the National Woman's Party, who, by the way, was one of the women sent to the workhouse for her activity in trying to interest the President in the equal suffrage amendment, says that "we face this second postponement of a vote on the suffrage amendment because President Wilson failed to work with sufficient earnestness and determination for the amendment."

It is undoubtedly true that because of the power President Wilson wields in his party he could have brought to the support of the measure enough Democrats to bring the subject to a vote. There was no lack of Republican votes, and, in view of his readiness to direct his party in Congress in other matters, it is not surprising that the equal suffragists expected him to exert himself a little more in their behalf. . . .—*Nebraska City (Neb.) Press, July 10, 1918.*

July 14—Freedom Day?

JULY 14—the day that France saw the fall of the Bastile at the hands of the brave men and women, battling for citizenship rights—has been celebrated this year in the United States with hearty enthusiasm. And it is likely that through all the years to come, this nation will take delight in making a holiday of the French Independence Day.

But it will also be observed in another way by the women of the United States;—generous though they be in their forgetting, they will always recall that when American women in the National Capital marched forth on July 14 last year to celebrate the Fall of the Bastile by asking for their own freedom, they were seized and thrown into prison!

Over in France the heroes we honor bombarded the old prison with stones and other missiles, and blood was shed in the terrible fight before the prison doors. In the United States, the women silently marched down the broad sidewalk of Pennsylvania avenue, carrying banners on which were written pleas for justice to the women of the United States, while we make the world "safe for democracy." They were not disorderly. They did not block traffic. They were exercising their right of petition, not denied any alleged citizen of the United States, and they were seized and thrown into prison and treated as if they were the lowest of criminals.

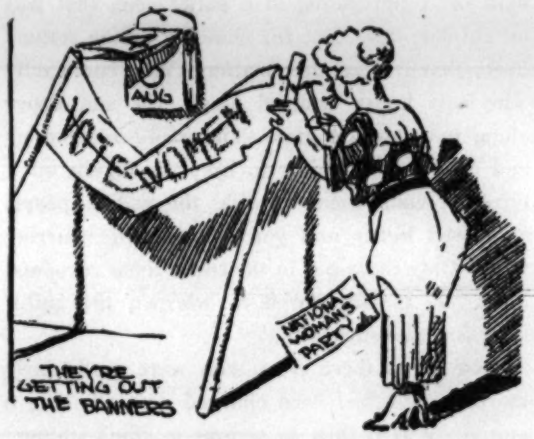
And this on the day when honor is paid to the stormers of the Bastile!

In the year that has elapsed, the courts have found that these women were unlawfully arrested and unlawfully imprisoned. There are now big damage suits pending because of the treatment accorded many of them. They were martyrs to a cause as great as that for which the people of France fought and died in the days of the Revolution; and so history will record another reason for America observing the Fourteenth of July.—*Miami (Fla.) Metropolis, July 15, 1918.*

Push the Suffrage Resolution; It is Sure to Win Sooner or Later

IN Washington the other day the authorities found the time, and the willingness, to disperse by force a gathering of women in Lafayette Square which was held for the purpose of emphasizing upon the President the desirability of immediate action on national woman suffrage.

Washington seems to find it easier to send its police against women who are pressing this most laudable issue than it does to bring a vote upon it in the Senate.



Washington. (D. C.) Post, August 4, 1918

The present situation of the suffrage issue is little less than disgraceful to the nation. It has been approved by the House of Representatives, and by an overwhelming vote, which means, of course, overwhelmingly above the necessary two-thirds vote for its enactment. . . .

It is significant that President Wilson, on the eve of a political campaign in which the fortunes of his party are deeply involved, should declare himself unreservedly for suffrage. It is significant, too, that of the men now running for United States Senator thirty-two have declared themselves in favor of this reform. Others, no doubt, will follow their example. The significance of these political incidents is that the men concerned in them recognize the fact that the common sense of the nation, the home-loving and home-keeping elements in the nation, believe that women should have the right to vote no more restricted than it is with men. . . .

The President sees clearly that woman suffrage in the United States is not merely a national issue but an international issue. If we are to be respected by progressive nations such as Great Britain, Australia, Canada and New Zealand, we must not hold up our women before them as inferior to theirs. . . .

The President very definitely says that this is a war issue. It emphatically is. Our women are engaged in this war no less earnestly, and with no smaller sacrifice, than the men who are actually fighting on the French field. . . .

This reform is one certain to be effected. The Senate ought not to delay it longer.—*New York American, August 10, 1918.*

Suffrage Demonstrations

IT is difficult to determine which side looks most foolish after the recent suffrage demonstration held in Lafayette Park. Whether the National Woman's Party or the police department gain this questionable honor, the fact remains that the Woman's Party has secured what it desired at the expense of the police.

The *Washington Herald* has and always will support the movement for woman suffrage, but it has always discountenanced picketing of the type practiced before the White House several months ago.

However, we know and the suffrage leaders will admit, that the demonstrations are merely for the purpose of securing publicity. And so long as the police adopt stupid methods and make wholesale arrests, publicity will not be denied them. It is impossible for a newspaper to overlook the arrest of half a hundred women in the shadow of the White House. The suffragists know this and they are capitalizing the stupidity of the police.

Meanwhile the police seem to be digging around trying to find some charge by which they can hold their prisoners. According to the police department they were arrested for violating the park regulations under sections 4 and 5, article 7, but, according to the suffragists, these sections were repealed back in 1902. If such is the case it looks as though the authorities have made a decidedly bonehead play.

The courts have already upheld the pickets on one occasion, and the government is facing a suit for $400,000 for false arrest.

Why should the police department fall a second time? It is safe to say that but little publicity would accrue from a suffrage demonstration were it not for the arrests. Let them hold meetings in the parks. No one else is denied this right. After a few quiet meetings without molestation by the police, they will be cured.

But they are sure to get publicity when scores of them are thrown in jail. And that is just what they figure on when they announce their demonstrations. The fact that the Senate took cognizance of their demonstration after a long period of lethargy on the suffrage question proves that they are drawing the attention they desire. No matter if some of their supporters threaten to desert. They are, at least, discussing the suffrage question.

Incidentally the Senate's near-threat that suffrage supporters would withdraw their support sounds very empty. If the suffrage movement is of such little importance to the Senators that they are willing to withdraw their support because a few women are indiscreet, then the Senator's support is worth very little.

We are against senseless suffrage demonstrations, but, so far in their campaign, it looks as though the women have considerably the best of the argument, with the police looking puny and foolish by comparison.—*Washington (D. C.) Herald, August 11, 1918.*

Protest Against Suffrage Blockade Continues

Western Woman Advises Passive Resistance to the President

THAT President Wilson is losing the support of women in his western strongholds is daily being demonstrated in the West where the women who rallied to the Democratic standard because of suffrage promises are amazed at the passive attitude of the President in the present suffrage crisis. Western women realize to the full the political ineffectiveness of the President's lip-service in regard to suffrage.

Mrs. Nancy Lee Pope (Mrs. Horton Pope), a Southern woman, long a resident of Denver, a stanch suffragist as well as an active supporter of the President, explains her stand at the present time, and makes it clear that the Democratic Party will lose ground in the West, not alone through the active organization of the working suffragists, but through the passive opposition of the hundreds of women who have every reason to doubt the sincerity of a leader who on the one hand champions suffrage for the women of the world, and on the other, sanctions the arrests of women who dare to demand their liberty.

Mrs. Pope writes to the SUFFRAGIST:

Denver, Colorado,
July 21, 1918.

DEAR SUFFRAGIST:

The letter of a Southern woman in your number of July 13 so interested me that I shall tell the decision I have come to. I am a Democrat by inheritance and tradition, but my politics were largely theoretical until I heard Mr. Wilson speak in Denver during his first campaign. He inspired me with such confidence that nothing could have turned me from casting my vote—my first Presidential vote—for him. At his second election I not only voted, but worked and fought heart and soul in his interests, explaining his policies to every woman I met.

While I was a Democrat by inheritance, I was a suffragist by the most passionate conviction, and I sometimes wondered if I was justified in following a leader who could not see the logic of the federal amendment. Still I did not pledge myself to the National Party until the President announced that he had been converted. Relieved that my two faiths had at last become reconciled, I signed the pledge.

This is the quandary in which Democratic women find themselves today, judging by my own. Shall they continue to evince faith in a party which, obviously, has not faith in them? Shall they regard the pledge "to regard woman suffrage as the foremost political issue of the day irrespective of the interests of any national party" as "a scrap of paper?"

What are they to do?

I for one will not vote the Republican ticket. Loss of faith in one party does not inspire faith in another, and of promises without guarantees we have had too many. But I am not obliged to vote at all. I have only to keep on following the President and remain inactive "in the home," "believing" in the Democratic principle passively, but doing nothing for it actively. If the other Democratic women do the same, the opposing forces must win.

There are times when inaction is quite as effective as action. This is one of them.

Sincerely yours,
NANCY TURNER POPE.

THE Woman's Party has opened headquarters in the Metropolitan Building, Denver.

Miss Iris Calderhead, organizer for Colorado, will start in August on a tour of the state, with the aim of securing a working committee in every county.

Drawing-room meetings have been held in Denver at the homes of Mrs. Laura Bennett, Mrs. Perle S. Kingsley, Mrs. J. T. Fetzell and Mrs. Shanley M. Casper. Miss Calderhead and Dr. Caroline E. Spencer, state secretary, were the speakers.

Miss Calderhead spoke also before the University Woman's Magazine Club, and the National Association of Colored Women. At all these meetings protest over the inactivity of the President and his leaders went to Washington.

Idaho Women Demand that Borah Stand by His Party

MRS. John P. Gray opened her beautiful home in Coeur d' Alene to Mrs. C. P. McFarland, president of the Woman's Republican Club of Coeur d' Alene for a meeting of the club members last week. After discussion they unanimously passed a resolution declaring that they, as Republican women, demanded that Senator Borah stand by the Republican platform and follow out the desires of his constituents by voting for the Susan B. Anthony amendment.

The women of Coeur d' Alene are thoroughly indignant over Borah's opposition to National Woman Suffrage.

Mrs. Harry Allen, of Wallace, will act as chairman of the second congressional district made up of ten northern counties of Idaho. She will have for her vice-chairmen the chairman in each county. Mrs. Allen is the daughter of Judge Woods and the grand-daughter of Mrs. Emmeline Wells, of Salt Lake City.

The people of Idaho are frankly bewildered over the stand Borah has taken in opposition to national woman suffrage. Miss Margaret Whittemore writes from Boise, "Every day I am asked, 'What must the people of the East think of us? They must think that suffrage is a failure in Idaho.' They are also very much mortified that a man from a state where women have voted for twenty-two years should oppose suffrage for the women of the rest of the nation. This is the reason women are asking Senator Borah to read their requests to him to vote for the suffrage amendment on the floor of the Senate, so that the Congress may know that Borah's opposition in no way represents the sentiment of the people of Idaho."

A mass meeting was called recently by the citizens of Boise to send a message of protest to Senator Borah. Though it was called in one day, it succeeded in gathering together a very representative group, filled with a splendid spirit of determination to enlist Idaho on the side of democracy for the United States. Mr. George Weeks, chairman of the meeting, spoke with great feeling of Idaho's responsibility for securing one of the two votes necessary for gaining woman suffrage throughout the nation. A committee was organized to carry on this work. The members of the committee are, Mrs. John Gray; Mrs. R. E. McFarland, chairman of the Woman's Republican Club; Mrs. Robert Elder, wife of the Democratic National Committeeman from Idaho and a leading Red Cross worker; Mrs. John Thompson, chairman of the Red Cross of Kootenai County; Mrs. James Beatty, wife of Federal Judge Beatty and a member of the state board of the Idaho Woman Suffrage Association, in office when Idaho secured woman suffrage; Mrs. George Haney, President of the Civic Club of Coeur d'Alene; Mrs. C. W. Pelham; Mrs. E. C. Thomas; Mrs. W. G. George, ex-president of the Civic Club; Mrs. Theresa Graham, Democratic National Committeewoman of Idaho.

Miss Whittemore left Idaho for a day last month to attend the convention of the Washington State Press Association in Spokane. The Washington papers cover the northern section of Idaho. Miss Whittemore was invited to address the convention. She spoke to more than a hundred editors, telling them of Borah's unreasoning and obstinate opposition to woman suffrage and asking them for their support. They were full of sympathy for the national suffrage movement and promised constant editorial help.

New Jersey Munition Workers Protest

NEW Jersey has been bombarding Senator Baird and the President with messages of protest at the holding up of the federal suffrage amendment vote.

Miss Mary E. Dubrow, National Woman's Party organizer in New Jersey, says: "By street meetings we feel that we may bring before our people the fact that it is their business to see that Senator Baird votes for our amendment." And the people are making it their business! Munition workers in the factories of New Jersey have been holding suffrage meetings, and have asked President Wilson to "help America toward justice."

Mrs. George S. Scott, of Montclair, and Miss Dubrow, have been speaking in Paterson and Passaic, where letters to the President and to Senator Baird have been eagerly signed by the voters.

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List of Contributions from August 1 through August 8, 1918

Contributions made to National Headquarters:

Mrs. Josephine B. Justice	$ 25.00
Mrs. L. N. Crabbe	5.00
Prof. H. B. Rossell	1.00
Miss Marion Usher	1.00
Per Miss Julia Emory:	
Philadelphia, Pa.	18.00
Colorado Branch	100.00
Mr. William Randolph Hearst	1,000.00
Mrs. G. E. Sage	25.00
Dr. Caroline E. Spencer	1.00
Mrs. Kate G. Winston	.75
Per New Jersey Branch:	
Mr. Milton Hopkins	10.00
Miss Elizabeth M. Wilson	2.00
Membership Fees	15.75
Total collected by National Headquarters	1,204.50
Previously acknowledged in THE SUFFRAGIST	344,004.94
Total collected by National Headquarters through August 8, 1918	345,209.44
Contributions made to Michigan Headquarters:	
Mrs. Lucia V. Grimes	5.00
Mrs. R. M. Bodmer	5.00
Miss Alice Guysi	5.00
Mrs. James Whittemore	10.00
Total collected by Branch Headquarters	25.00
Previously acknowledged in THE SUFFRAGIST	65,439.72
Total collected by Branches through August 8, 1918	65,464.72
Grand Total	410,674.16
Deduction:	
Transferred from Branch Headquarters to National Headquarters	3,637.50
Grand Net Total	$407,036.66

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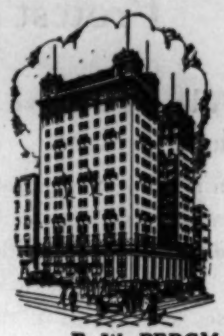
Miss Lucy Branham	3
Miss Julia Emory	1
Dr. Sarah Lockrey	1
Mrs. Ida Saul Williams	1
Mrs. A. H. Bright	1
Miss Clara Louise Rowe	20
Miss Alice Henkle	2
Miss Iris Calderhead	1
Mrs. John R. Clarke	2
Mrs. Ellen Hadfield	1
Pennsylvania State Suffragist Chairman and Committees	23
Total	58



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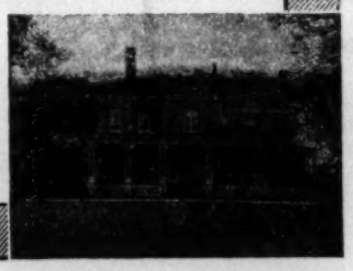

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